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IDEA-0391  
Copy 2 of 7

24 July 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Conversation with DDCI 21 July Regarding Rerun of Operation  
GREEN EYES 25 July

1. On the afternoon of 21 July General Cabell called me to state that he had talked with Jim Reber regarding the COMOR recommendation that another edition of GREEN EYES be run over Cuba on 25 or 26 July, and that in view of the sensitivity connected with this type of an operation on this particular occasion, he felt it was necessary to seek policy guidance before the operation was actually begun.

2. General Cabell then said that he wanted it clearly understood that we were not to execute this mission until either he or the Director gave clearance for it. Apparently General Cabell had talked to the Director, who suggested that the former solicit the required guidance from General Taylor and, through Roger Hilsman, the views of the Secretary of State. General Cabell said that he had already raised the matter with "Max T." and felt that we were clear in that area, but that no word had been received from Hilsman about the views of the Secretary.

25X1A 3. I communicated the sense of the above to [ ] and discussed it on the telephone with Jim Reber to make sure that he was aware of the course we were following. At approximately 10 p.m. 21 July General Cabell called me at home to say that he had just heard from Hilsman and that the latter had indicated the Secretary's concurrence in conducting the mission on the date planned. Accordingly, I advised [ ] by telephone, and I told him that things were in readiness and that no further word need be dispatched to [ ] since the latter was unaware of any policy approval holdup. The first look at the weather for this mission will therefore go ahead at 1600 hours 23 July.

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4. While discussing GREEN EYES with the DDCI, I asked him if he had any further word on TACKLE, to which he replied in the negative. He said he saw no reason why we could not run both operations simultaneously, although I expressed what I felt was Colonel Beerli's preference for consecutive rather than simultaneous projects of this sort. I reminded the General that we were limited to two operational [redacted] at Edwards, and that if one were to be used on GREEN EYES, we would be without a backup for [redacted]. The General said he did not regard this as a disability despite the fact that I reminded him that it was he who had acted several years ago to persuade us of the concept of airborne spares in the IDEALIST Program. I do not think that either one of us convinced the other in the course of this exercise, and the matter was left hanging. I did tell him, however, that preliminary arrangements regarding airlift and aircraft ferry flights had been laid on with USAF for the [redacted] exercise in the event

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I assured him that this was not in our plan.

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SIGNED

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.  
Assistant Chief  
DDP-DD/P

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DDP-DD/P: JACunningham, Jr./mg

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